

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Claims 1-8, and 16 - 19 remain pending. Non-elected claims 9-15 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants request that non-elected claims 4-8 and 17 be retained in the application for allowance when the product claims are found allowable, and hereby offer to amend claim 4 to correspond to claim 1 if claim 1 is considered allowable. The revision to claim 1 and new claims 18 - 19 are supported, for example, at page 6, lines 12-25.

Claim 1 has been rejected as anticipated by US 4,865,932 and JP 63-40254. Claims 1-3 and 16 have been rejected as anticipated by JP 63-40252, JP 3-201367 and US 4,591,087. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

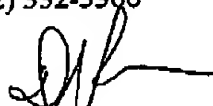
Claim 1 requires a battery electrode in which an electrode plate and lead are bonded ultrasonically by an ultrasonic horn and an anvil with an uneven circumferential surface. Even if the references disclose electrode plates and leads that are bonded ultrasonically, a point that is not being conceded here, none of the references discloses an electrode plate and lead that are bonded by an ultrasonic horn and an anvil with an uneven circumferential surface. This is advantageous in holding the workpiece securely, as discussed at page 6 of the specification, and thus provides an electrode that has improved connection between the electrode plate and lead, and increases the reliability and predictability of the electrode properties. Therefore, claim 1 is not disclosed or even suggested by the references.

In view of the above, favorable reconsideration in the form of a Notice of Allowance is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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